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Nixon Replies To Kennedy's Cuba Denial

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 22 (AP).—President Kennedy says the issue is closed as far as he is concerned, but former Vice President Nixon has a final word on the secret preparations for a Cuban invasion attempt.

Mr. Nixon issued a statement yesterday in reply to the White House denial that Mr. Kennedy knew, during the 1960 campaign that the United States was training Cubans for the invasion.

Mr. Nixon's book, "Six Crises," says Mr. Kennedy was aware of the training and endangered United States security by advocating drastic opposition to Fidel Castro.

"President Eisenhower has authorized me to state that he gave instructions that Senator Kennedy was to be as fully briefed on our foreign problems as I was," Mr. Nixon's statement said.

"The statements in my book were based not only on public press accounts of the briefings President Kennedy received, but on personal conversations with responsible individuals who had knowledge of the facts.

"Because the Cuban issue was such an important one in the campaign, I personally researched the facts relating to it. Beyond that, I have no further comment. My book speaks for itself."

The White House denial has been supported by Allen W. Dulles, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, who briefed Senator Kennedy. He said Mr. Nixon was wrong, but that he believed the error was the result of a "misunderstanding."